

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-19 and 38 are pending, with claim 1 amended, claim 38 added, and claims 20-37 cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. Claims 1 and 38 are independent.

In the Official Action, claims 1, 3-7, and 15-25 and 33-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,822,123, hereinafter Davis) in view of Yoshida (U.S. Patent No. 5,936,611, hereinafter Yoshida); and claims 8-14 and 26-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis and Yoshida in view of Nsonwu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,978,473, hereinafter Nsonwu).

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the interview between Applicant's representative and the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor on June 23, 2008. During the interview, Applicant's figures were compared with the applied references, and a proposed amendment was discussed. The Examiners acknowledged that the references do not disclose or suggest the help screens shown in Applicant's figures. The Examiners also acknowledged that the proposed amendment overcame the current rejections, but suggested further amendments to clarify the invention. The Examiners' suggestions are incorporated in the amendment presented herein.

Applicant traverses the statement in paragraph 2 of the Official Action. Applicant contends that the taking of Official Notice was improper. However, the question of Official Notice is moot in view of the present amendment.

Briefly recapitulating, amended claim 1 is directed to

A method for implementing a help function in a digital television receiver with a plurality of buttons, including a help button and cursor buttons, provided on the digital television receiver or on a remote controller, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying main help items including titles of external elements in the digital television receiver on a first area of a screen when a user pushes the help button;

indicating any one of the titles of the external elements with a cursor as the user manipulates the cursor buttons, and displaying a detailed configuration of the external element indicated by the cursor on a second area of the screen; and

displaying on a third area of the screen a help description with respect to one part of the detailed configuration indicated by the cursor on the second area of the screen without a separate key signal when the cursor indicates any one part of the detailed configuration,

wherein the first, second and third areas are simultaneously displayed on the screen.

New claim 38 is directed to a digital television including a controller configured to, *inter alia*, “control the display screen to display on a third area of the display screen a help description with respect to one part of the detailed configuration indicated by the cursor on the second area of the display screen without a separate key signal when the cursor indicates any one part of the detailed configuration, wherein the first, second and third areas are simultaneously displayed on the display screen.”

Davis describes an electronic program schedule system. In operation modes of flip, browse, or menu, the system of Davis may provide a user with context sensitive pop-up hints. These hints appear either when the user explicitly asks for help or when the system detects that the user needs assistance through the user's inaction or keystroke error.¹ For example, if the user

¹ Davis column 34, lines 57-64

enters the listing by time menu screen 400 displayed in Figure 43a, which shows program listings for a single time period, and either “stalls” (remaining inactive for more than a predetermined amount of time), requests for help (by pressing the “help” key 50), or presses an improper key, the system displays a hint 402 like that shown in Figure 43a, instructing the user how to highlight another program.² In one embodiment, each hint is displayed at one time. In an alternative embodiment, subsequent hints may be added to the hint or hints already displayed on the screen so the user is made aware of all of the different available options at the same time.³

Yoshida describes an on screen displaying apparatus that displays a remote control hand unit. Figure 4 of Yoshida is an example of a main screen for setting various functions of an image display apparatus with remote control functions. If a menu key 31 on the remote control hand unit is pressed, a mode is changed over to a help mode. Various names of help functions are then displayed. Figure 4 further shows the screen on which “picture” is selected (highlighted). A user may navigate with left to right arrow keys through various options.

However, as acknowledged during the interview of June 23, 2008, both Davis and Yoshida fail to disclose or suggest “displaying on a third area of the screen a help description with respect to one part of the detailed configuration indicated by the cursor on the second area of the screen without a separate key signal when the cursor indicates any one part of the detailed configuration, wherein the first, second and third areas are simultaneously displayed on the screen.”

Applicant has considered Nsonwu and submits Nsonwu does not cure the deficiencies of Davis and Yoshida. As none of the cited art, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests

² Davis column 34, lines 7-15

³ Davis column 34, lines 32-37

at least the above-noted features of independent claims 1 and 38, Applicant submits the inventions defined by claims 1 and 38, and all claims depending therefrom, are not rendered obvious by the asserted references for at least the reasons stated above.⁴

Conclusion

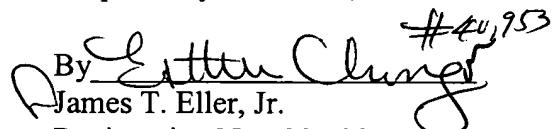
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael E. Monaco, Reg. No. 52, 041 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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⁴ MPEP § 2142 "...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.